

# NEWS JOURNAL

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FEBRUARY 2008



## PROGRESS ON NEW SCHOOL DISTRICT



*Kelvyn H. Cullimore, Jr.*  
MAYOR

In November the citizens of Cottonwood Heights, Draper, Sandy, Midvale and Alta voted to create a new school district. It was a bold move that holds great promise for the future of education in our area. Since that time we have been very busy implementing the process as outlined in statute.

A steering committee has been formed comprised of the Mayors of the five cities, the County Mayor or his representative, and city managers and staff from the five cities. This committee will guide

the efforts of creating the new district until a new school board is elected.

This committee refers to the new district as the Canyons District in order to distinguish it from the Jordan District. However, the final decision for the name of the new district will be made by the Board of Education once it is elected.

Following the election, an eight member Transition Team was appointed for the Canyons District to work with the Jordan District Transition Team in dividing the assets of the current Jordan District. That process is underway and is scheduled to conclude by August 1st. It is a challenging process, but we have capable professionals on both sides working toward a fair and equitable division of assets. Two Cottonwood Heights' residents, Devon Sanderson and Mike Shelton, serve on that Team.

On January 4, 2008, the County Council approved new school board precincts for both the Canyons and remaining Jordan Districts. A map of those precincts, along with additional information, is available at <http://www.jordandistrict.org/division/index.html>. It is anticipated that those wishing to run for a school

board position will need to file in March and the election is scheduled for June 24, 2008.

While waiting for the new school board to be elected and the Transition Teams to divide the assets, the steering committee will be working with stakeholders (parents, teachers, administrators, and classified employees) to help prepare the way for the establishment of the new district. An interim executive administrator and staff will be facilitating this process. Committees will be formed to explore everything from methodologies for delivering educational services, to compensation schemes, to auxiliary services, to facility needs, and anything and everything in between.

Communications will be routed through the school community councils. As stakeholders are needed for various committees, the requests will be sent out through the councils. As stakeholders have ideas for areas they would like to explore, committees will be formed for that purpose. All work by these committees will ultimately be compiled into reports to be given to the new school board and administration by August 1, 2008.

### CITY INFORMATION: *City Council Members*

#### MAYOR

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#### CITY MANAGER –

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### CITY OFFICES:

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Cottonwood Heights, UT 84047

**phone** (801) 545-4154

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### CALL DIRECT:

City Manager	545-4160
Deputy City Manager	545-4165
City Planning	545-4172
Recorder	545-4162
Treasurer	545-4175
Finance Director	545-4177
Code Enforcement	833-8376
Customer Service	545-4154
Public Information	545-4163

To hear the agenda for the next city council meeting call: 545-4155

For the planning commission agenda call 545-4156

For details about the agendas, check our web site:  
[www.cottonwoodheights.utah.gov](http://www.cottonwoodheights.utah.gov)

### NUMBERS TO KNOW:

<b>Emergency:</b>	911
<b>Sheriff Dispatch:</b>	743-7000
<b>Fire Authority:</b>	743-7200
<b>Animal Control:</b>	833-8376
<b>Justice Court:</b>	273-9731

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## CHPD BULLETIN

### COUNCIL-MEMBERS EXPLAIN RATIONALE FOR SELF-PROVIDE DECISION

In summing up the councils' decision to self-provide police services in Cottonwood Heights, Mayor Kelvyn Cullimore, Jr., stated, "The conclusion is that in the absence of a broadly supported, true regional police force, a community oriented police department makes the most sense for providing the best public safety product to our citizens."

This statement came after each council-member had taken time to explain his decision and how he had arrived at his vote in favor of creating the Cottonwood Heights' Police Department (CHPD).

Councilman Gordon Thomas, District 1, stated that the

main issues for him were an understanding of the services offered by the Sheriff's office and whether the city could come close to matching those services without increasing taxes. To answer these questions he attended a 10 week course sponsored by the Sheriff's office and spent time with City Treasurer Gary Harmer discussing detail concerning the city budget. After having his questions answered, he "...did extensive soul-searching before coming to the conclusion that self-providing would provide the kind of services needed by our city."

Councilman Scott Bracken,

District 2, explained to attendees that, contrary to some reports, this issue was not merely the result of a rift between the Mayor and the Sheriff but rather an intensely studied issue with all members of the council being involved collectively and independently in the research. He further reminded the group that the numbers in the feasibility study were intentionally high estimates (worst case scenario) and that the numbers for contracting were low estimates (best case scenario), thus making the anticipated actual cost differences likely negligible. With personality differences and cost

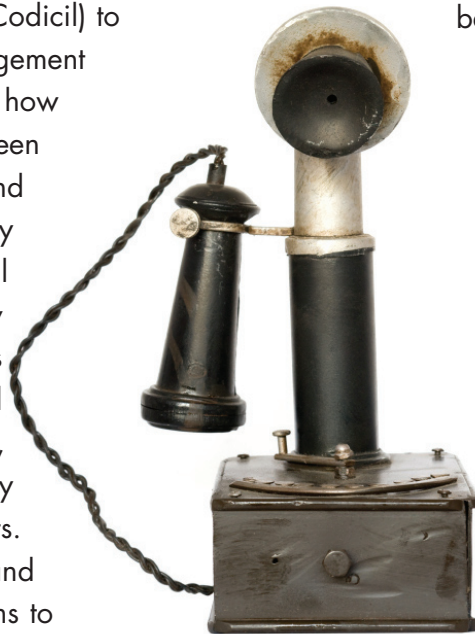
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## City Council Approves Emergency Communication Plan

The Communication Annex (Addendum or Codicil) to the Cottonwood Heights' Emergency Management Plan is now official. The Annex specifies how communications will be maintained between residents, emergency responders, and Cottonwood Heights, during emergency response operations. It outlines any and all possible means of communications that may be carried out during a disaster. Telephones are the first choice of passing on critical information such as damage assessments, injuries, or deaths, and where the emergency response might concentrate its initial efforts. However, during a disaster, telephones and electrical power are generally the first systems to



become inoperable. In that case, radios, runners or the already established Emergency Alert System and the NOAA weather radio may be the only options. A number of skilled radio amateurs or "Ham" operators have volunteered to pass information from the city to the Salt Lake County Emergency Operations Center or to local responders. More "Ham" operators are needed. If you're interested in joining this elite group of communicators and have a valid amateur radio license or would like information on how to obtain one, please contact Bob Fowler, N7CEM through: [Istillman@cottonwoodheights.utah.gov](mailto:Istillman@cottonwoodheights.utah.gov). Provide your name, call sign, and license class.

## SUE RYSER RESIGNS FROM PLANNING COMMISSION

The Cottonwood Heights Planning Commission has lost one of its original appointees with the resignation of Sue Ryser. Michael Black, City Planning Director, who staffs the Planning Commission stated, "With her extensive knowledge of land use issues, Sue Ryser was a tremendous asset to the Planning Commission, staff, and citizens of the city. Sue acquired her land use expertise from serving many years on community commissions and being involved in grass roots planning efforts in the Little Cottonwood Creek Valley of the city. She has always been passionate and professional in dealing with city planning issues as well as being considerate to the concerns of the public. I hope to be able to work with Sue again in the future."

Sue held an at-large appointment and her seat is now available. Anyone interested in serving on the Planning Commission should submit a resume with a cover letter to City Manager Liane Stillman, 1265 East Fort Union Blvd., Ste. 250, Cottonwood Heights, UT 84047 or by email to: [Istillman@cottonwoodheights.utah.gov](mailto:Istillman@cottonwoodheights.utah.gov). The application deadline is Feb. 22, 2008.

The Planning Commission is comprised of seven members and two alternates. They meet the first and third Wednesday of each month and deal primarily with residential and commercial zoning and development issues. Any questions should be directed to City Planning Director Michael Black at: [mblack@cottonwoodheights.utah.gov](mailto:mblack@cottonwoodheights.utah.gov).



State Legislators, City Council members and guests meet over lunch to discuss the upcoming legislative session. A preview of bills that will impact cities was discussed.

## February City Council Meeting Schedule

All February city council business meetings will be held in the new council chambers, 1256 East Fort Union Blvd., Ste. 300. The work meetings will be held in the conference room at the same address but in Ste. 250. The meeting schedule is as follows:

- Tuesday, February 5 – Work meeting 6 p.m.
- Tuesday, February 12 – Work meeting 6 p.m.

Business meeting 7 p.m. – City Council will likely appoint a Chief of Police for the new CHPD as a first step in the organization process.

- Tuesday, February 19 – Work meeting 6 p.m.
- Tuesday, February 26 – Work meeting 6 p.m.

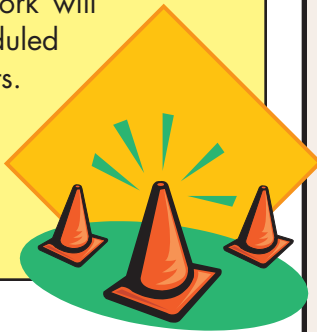
Business meeting 7 p.m.



## PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS

for February, 2008

Cottonwood Heights' Deputy City Manager, Kevin Smith, has announced that repair work will begin in February on those streets scheduled for this spring/summer re-paving projects. A map detailing the streets that will be repaved is available under the public works link on the city website: [www.cottonwoodheights.utah.gov](http://www.cottonwoodheights.utah.gov).



## ORDINANCE ENFORCEMENT OOPS

Those needing Code Enforcement or Animal Control assistance should call **John Lovato at 833-8376**. A communication failure resulted in the wrong number being given for Code Enforcement in last month's NEWS JOURNAL. That number should be destroyed.

## SNOW REMOVAL REMINDER



In spite of the bad publicity the city recently received on the evening TV news, no one has been cited for not having their walks clear within an hour following any snowstorm. The City Council has informed city Ordinance Enforcement Officers that they are not to enforce the current ordinance and that they will be re-visiting that section of city ordinances and consider increasing to a 24-hour snow removal

requirement.

In the meantime, what a winter we are having. It is hoped that all residents will make every effort to clear the walks for which they are responsible within a reasonable time following a storm. All of us working together will enable those school children and others who use the sidewalks to avoid having to purchase snowshoes or snowmobiles. No one wants children to get bogged down trudging through snow.

## STILL TIME TO ENROLL IN CERT CLASSES



Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) is designed to prepare as many citizens of Cottonwood Heights as possible to be effective first responders in the event of an earthquake, fire,

blizzard, power outage, or other emergency that impacts an entire neighborhood or city. The more residents of Cottonwood Heights having this invaluable training, the more lives will be saved in an emergency situation.

An opportunity to become CERT trained is available right now if Saturday is a good day for you to attend. This class is jointly sponsored by the city and the Unified Fire Authority (UFA) and will begin on Saturday, February 9th. The second class will be held the following Saturday, Feb. 16th and the final class will be just half a day on Saturday, Feb. 23rd. The first two Saturdays, the classes will run from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The final class will end at 1:00 p.m. Classes 1 and 2 will be held in the Cottonwood Heights' City Offices, 1265 East Fort Union Blvd. Location for the third class will be announced.

The fee is \$30 which covers the cost of a helmet, vest, first aid gear, and the textbook. Each participant will also need to bring safety glasses, gloves, and sturdy work boots. Register today at [www.unifiedfire.org](http://www.unifiedfire.org) or by calling Micayla Dinkel at 272-2154 or Shelly Hanson at 545-4154.

*The number of trainee slots is limited.*

**REGISTER NOW!!!**

## SCHOOL BOARD FILING DATES NEAR

Those interested in running for the new school district Board of Education are required to file their candidacy between March 7 and 17, 2008. This election is under the direction of the Salt Lake County Clerk and filing must be done at that office, 2001 South State, #1100. Filing can be done anytime between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. on the weekday dates indicated. The filing fee is \$25.

There will be seven seats on the new board and all will be open for the election to be held on June 24, 2008. There will be no primary election, so all who file will be on the ballot in the special election on June 24. Odd-numbered precincts will be for four year terms and even-numbered precincts for two years for this first election. After all seats are filled in the first election, all future elections will be for four years seats with the three even-numbered precincts electing board members in the non-Presidential election years and the four odd-numbered seats being elected during Presidential years. Precinct numbers have already been determined by the county and those who run must reside in the precinct in which they run.

Those elected at the June 24, 2008 election will begin official service on July 15, 2008 and will serve for two or four years, depending on the precinct they represent. The current Jordan Board of Education will cease to exist on July 15, 2009. It is possible for someone currently sitting on the Jordan District Board to be elected to the new board also, and then serve on both boards for a year.

Maps and other information are available at [www.clerk.slco.org](http://www.clerk.slco.org) or by accessing the Salt Lake County website and going into the clerk's website from there.





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# CHPD BULLETIN

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estimates not being factors, the practicality of contract services vs. self-provide services became the issue. He commented on the likelihood of inherent conflicts when three elected bodies (City Council, County Council, and Sheriff), are attempting to coordinate budget, policy, and personnel matters as they relate to providing law enforcement for one of those quasi-independent entities. Only in a self-provide model do the city's elected officials have definitive control over these issues. His conclusion was, "Having the City Council, 100% elected by citizens of Cottonwood Heights", and solely responsible for police services eliminates a number of potential problems."

Councilman Don Antczak, District 3, commented on the complexity of decisions such as this and on how much the council appreciated the input that had been received from the public, the feasibility study, and the Sheriff's department. "The city has been very pleased with the service rendered by the Sheriff and the performance of assigned officers, but because of the broad scope of the Sheriff's department, they are unable to address and focus on the specific needs of our city; it is time for us to self-provide. This will be a good decision for the city."

Councilman Bruce Jones, District 4, reminded the audience that he had served as Chairman of the Sheriff's Merit Commission and had been closely affiliated with the Sheriff's office and many of its personnel, for years. He expressed appreciation for the service being rendered by Sheriff's office personnel but felt it was important to move to a self-provide model at this time in light

of contract interpretation differences and the value of moving city decision-makers one level nearer the officers on the street. He also urged, "... both the city and the Sheriff's office to work closely with each other in making the transition smooth and in negotiating for specialized services.

Other reasons for the decision, mentioned by the council members and the mayor, included:

- Self-Providing will not require a tax increase and any impact this decision has on other departments has been planned for and adjustments have been made.
- Contract costs are unknown factors each year, but the city council has total control over its budget.
- With the exception of those citizens affiliated with the Sheriff's office, a preponderance of citizen contacts were in favor of the change.
- Self-Providing will allow for direct accountability and interaction for council members receiving complaints from citizens and businesses.
- The city will receive greater coverage by having additional officers and detectives assigned to handle person and property crimes.
- Officers will be focused solely on Cottonwood Heights and not diluted by calls to White City, Millcreek, and Holladay.
- The city will be able to accumulate resources for on-going use rather than renting from the Sheriff's office.

- Self-Providing opens opportunities for grants and federal fund acquisition.
- Bordering cities that self-provide report it is a critical service best controlled locally.
- The failure of the Unified Police Department demonstrated that the best way to accomplish shared services is to be a self-providing city that works with other self-providing cities to achieve economies of scale and shared services.

"In the final analysis," the mayor stated, "the Council found that a community-oriented police department better served the needs of citizens than a county-oriented Sheriff's department. The cost analysis showed little difference between the two options, although the potential of saving costs by self-providing was a favorable consideration. The Council was convinced that the few times specialized services provided through the Sheriff were needed they could be achieved through an increased city detective squad and better cooperation with surrounding self-providing cities, or even contracting back for such specialty services with the Sheriff. Ultimately, there were many compelling reasons to move to a self-providing model and few valid reasons to stay under contract with the Sheriff."

The Mayor, Council, and staff are available for further discussion regarding this important decision and transition to the CHPD. Regular reports will be included in each month's NEWS JOURNAL, in addition to periodic website updates.



More than 100 residents of Cottonwood Heights receive Citizen Corps Training at a special RED CROSS CRASH COURSE held in the Cottonwood Heights' city offices on Thursday, January 17, 2008. Those in attendance received training in emergency preparedness and general first aid from David Neale, Emergency Services Director for the Greater Salt Lake Chapter of the Red Cross and from Matt Hurtes from the Salt Lake County Emergency Operations Center. This class was one of numerous opportunities sponsored by the city annually to help residents become better prepared for medical emergencies (*See information on CERT training elsewhere in this newsletter*).